

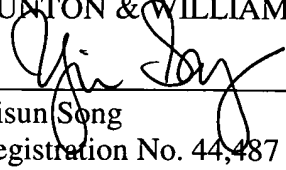
### CONCLUSION

In accordance with the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the six articles published on or after **June 22, 1999** are not prior art. In the alternative, it is respectfully submitted that the articles published on or after **August 1, 1999** are not prior art. Further, in the alternative, it is respectfully submitted that the six articles published on or after **September 22, 1999** are not prior art. If the Examiner has any remaining informalities to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited by the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss resolution of such informalities.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance. It is believed that no fees are due for filing this Response. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to treat any current or future reply, requiring a petition for an extension of time for its timely submission as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time. Applicant also authorizes the Commissioner to charge all required fees, fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.17, or all required extension of time fees, to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-0206.

Respectfully submitted,  
HUNTON & WILLIAMS

By:

  
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